

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

[P E R F E C T E D]

SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 417

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GOODMAN.

Offered March 28, 2007.

Senate Substitute adopted, March 28, 2007.

Taken up for Perfection March 28, 2007. Bill declared Perfected and Ordered Printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

1496S.03P

AN ACT

To amend chapter 261, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the farm mentoring and education fund.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 261, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new
2 section, to be known as section 261.112, to read as follows:

261.112. 1. There is hereby created in the state treasury the
2 "Farm Mentoring and Education Fund", which shall consist of moneys
3 appropriated from the general revenue fund and any other moneys
4 made available by gift, grant, bequest or contribution. All moneys
5 appropriated or otherwise awarded to the fund shall be payable to the
6 state treasurer and deposited into the farm mentoring and education
7 fund. The fund shall be administered by the farm mentoring and
8 education authority within the University of Missouri Extension
9 Center. The general assembly may appropriate up to ninety-nine
10 thousand dollars per fiscal year to the fund. Except as provided in
11 subsection 5 of this section, any moneys remaining in the fund at the
12 end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the credit of the general
13 revenue fund.

14 2. Each calendar year the authority shall administer the farm
15 mentoring and education program from a different university extension
16 service office located in a different region from the extension service
17 office that administered the program during the immediately preceding

18 year.

19 3. Moneys appropriated to the fund shall be used to provide for
20 educational programming that combines classroom training with
21 support training such as workshops, apprenticeships, and mentorships
22 in order to create a program designed to help individuals plan and
23 begin sustainable farm enterprises. Moneys shall also be used to
24 provide a salary for a director and staff for the farm mentoring and
25 education authority.

26 4. In the performance of its duties and selection of specific
27 training and projects to receive funding under this section, the
28 authority shall fulfill the goal of facilitating new farms and new
29 farmers, guided by the principles in subdivisions (1) to (5) of this
30 subsection.

31 (1) The program shall provide education and training, giving
32 participants an opportunity to learn firsthand about low-cost,
33 traditional, and sustainable methods of farming through classroom
34 instruction;

35 (2) The authority shall develop beyond the classroom, a
36 mentoring system, pairing participants with experienced farmers to
37 give participants firsthand opportunities to learn about traditional and
38 sustainable agriculture within the state;

39 (3) The authority shall exercise diligence and care in the
40 selection of its projects and program participants;

41 (4) The authority shall promote the program across the state,
42 endeavoring to reach both traditional full-time farmers and individuals
43 pursuing various agriculture commodities niches; and

44 (5) The authority shall have the ability to establish and oversee
45 new training sites throughout the state.

46 5. At the end of each biennium and after all statutorily or
47 constitutionally required transfer of funds have been made, the state
48 treasurer shall transfer the balance in the fund, except for gifts,
49 donations, bequests, or money received from a federal source, created
50 in this section in excess of two hundred percent of the previous fiscal
51 year's expenditures into the state general revenue fund.